

142 - From Revelation to Obedience, from hearing to heeding, in 7 steps

We have learned the principle well that revelation followed by obedience is met with confirmation, and then the blessing flows. We find this cycle demonstrated throughout the scriptures and throughout our lives and we've learned that the key to repeating the cycle, that is, to gaining more and greater revelation, is our obedience.

We've learned that obedience is simply heeding what we've heard by revelation and, as Barbara so often wisely reminds us, obedience is always the dividing issue; meaning that heeding the revelation we hear, acting on the word of God as revealed directly or through someone He sends into our lives, determines whether we live outside or inside of, "***The blessing of YaHoVeH, it enriches, and He shall not add grief to it***" (Proverbs 10:22, CLV).

Last week, I introduced the idea that disobedience, that is, stubborn refusal to heed the Father's revelation, is, like o-bedience, also met with confirmation, which I called consequences; likewise, the blessing cannot flow, but the cursing does. The Father has never blessed, and has only cursed disobedience to His word, from Adam forward.

Read **Deuteronomy 29:10–30:20**, CLV

I know that we are not Israel, to whom Moses spoke, but I cannot shake the realization that our accountability is far greater and our calling far higher, as **sons** of God, rather than merely servants of God; the Father having lavished His grace over us, the total expunging of offenses through the justification of Yeshua's faith (not even our own faith!), the promise of life out of death with Him prior to His literal return to Earth, and the down payment – the earnest of our allotment – of the Spirit of Holiness living in us; the presence of the Father and the Son making their abode with us, as Yeshua said.

Israel knew only that they would prosper in every way in the land God had promised Abraham to his descendents, **IF** they would but heed His revelation to them, which was the Father's 10 instructions, or sayings, which we have come to know as the 10 commandments. They also knew the consequences of disobeying the Father's instructions to the people He chose for Himself.

Israel's story is Adam's story playing out in a nation. Choose living in God's blessing or dying in your sin. Choose wisdom or foolishness. Revelation, followed by obedience OR disobedience, is met with confirmation or consequences, and the blessing or the cursing flows. One act of disobedience will change the blessing of the Lord into cursing instantly. Continual obedience, on the other hand, places us in the flow of the Father's blessing and His pleasure that is palpable inside us.

Obedience or disobedience is the only step **we** take; the other steps our Father takes. In His sovereignty, the Father knows which direction we will move and while we may not surprise Him, I can't help but think that disobedience pains Him as much as obedience pleases Him. Every time I consider Judas Iscariot's life, I feel the Father's pain. And every time I look at Yeshua's life, I see the Father's utter pleasure and His delight.

I began thinking about all this over the past week, as the ecclesia met in the Father's house, because I suddenly realized that there are steps we take between revelation and obedience or disobedience that determine the quality of our lives.

First, let me say that to me, disobedience and rebellion are the same. Adam's disobedience WAS rebellion against the Father's direct instruction. Saul likewise disobeyed the Father's clear instruction to him through Samuel, whom Saul KNEW was the Father's voice in his life.

1 Samuel 15:22-23, (ESV)

²² ...Behold, to obey [to hearken] is better than sacrifice, and to listen [to pay attention] than the fat of rams.

²³ For **rebellion** is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry.

The CLV says: “**For rebellion** is like the **sin of divination, Insubordination**, like the **lawlessness of teraphim.**”

I had to look up “teraphim” when I saw how different the CLV was from the ESV. Here’s what I found in the Jewish Encyclopedia online:

“That teraphim were really images of human shape and of considerable size is plainly seen from I Sam. 19:13, where Michal, the daughter of Saul, places one in David's bed in order to conceal his escape from her enraged father. It is furthermore evident that they were not too large to be easily portable, inasmuch as Gen. 31:19 mentions that Rachel, without her husband's knowledge, stole the teraphim which belonged to her father, Laban, and, when she wished to conceal them, placed them among the camel's furniture and sat upon them.”

Now the rest of **1 Samuel 15:23**

Because you have **rejected** the word of the LORD, he has also rejected you from being king.”

Now look at Saul’s response after Samuel lowered the boom on him:

1 Samuel 15:24

²⁴ Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because ***I feared the people and obeyed their voice.***”

Samuel is saying, “*You heard the Father’s word through me, but, instead of receiving it, you rejected it; you failed to realize Who was instructing you; you did not, therefore, recognize that your actions would be seen and consequences would follow. You failed to acknowledge and accept the Father’s word and instead acknowledged and accepted the soldiers’ words. You agreed with them rather than with God. You acted out of fear of man, instead of the fear of the Lord and faith in Him. As a result of rejecting God’s word, rebelling against it – disobeying it – the Father, Who chose you to lead His people, has rejected you from being king.*”

What a fearful and terrible recognition that is, isn't it? It reminds me of Paul's admonition about the wild olive branch and the natural:

Romans 11:17-22

17 Now if some of the boughs are broken out, yet you, being a wild olive, are grafted among them, and became a joint participant of the root and fatness of the olive,

18 be not vaunting over the boughs. Yet if you are vaunting, you are not bearing the root, but the root you.

19 You will be declaring, then, "Boughs are broken out that I may be grafted in."

20 Ideally! By unbelief are they broken out, yet you stand in faith. Be not haughty, but fear.

21 For if God spares not the natural boughs, neither will He be sparing you!

22 Perceive, then, the kindness and severity of God! On those, indeed, who are falling, severity, yet on you, God's kindness, if you should be persisting in the kindness: else you also will be hewn out.

When I sought the Father about why He opened this up to me, He said, "**to assure their success.**" By that, I understood Him to mean *your* success in 2013 and beyond, as you have been invited into a more intimate relationship with Him. You have less need of someone standing between you and the Father, because He desires to counsel you directly.

This doesn't do **away** with outside counsel; rather, it establishes a right **order** in which the Father's **direct** revelation to you is **preferable** to your receiving it from someone else first. It also **frees** everyone to do all that the Father is calling them to do for Him, much of which is **beyond** private, personal counseling, and is preparing for what may be His final calling to the many ahead of the Messiah's return. As I see it, the Father must prepare each of you to take His word with His heart to those He sends into your lives, or into whose lives He sends you. For you to succeed, it is imperative that you **know** His voice and that you act immediately and faithfully on His revelation, no matter what. Any other voice or voices

threaten your life now with Him in the spirit, except those whom He appoints; and you HAVE to develop discernment to know **them** like you know **His** voice.

I see that the Father is uncompromising about this toward you.

Last week's study was more of an announcement and explanation of a massive shift in the order of things in His ecclesia. This week, I hear The Father's declaration of success over you, if you will hearken to His voice and heed His instruction. The consequences of rejecting this are too unpleasant to contemplate, and are unnecessary for His children who hear and heed His voice; likewise the blessings that flow **from** receiving, agreeing with and obeying His revelation are greater than you have ever seen before.

A quick aside here: As I was going through the scriptures, I put various words into Bible Gateway to find references, and then looked them up in the CLV. What an eye-opening experience that was! Scriptures we recall and quote all the time, as if that's how they were written, turn out to be written and mean something entirely different than what we thought. I won't take time to get into ones I found. What I will do is invite you to look up some favorite or familiar scriptures from the OT in the CLV of the Old Testament and prepare to be amazed at what you find.

OK. Let's move into discovering the steps between revelation and obedience, because there you will find everything you need in practical terms to succeed in all that God has in store for you. Actually, we just saw all the steps in the example of Saul in 1 Samuel 15; but in case you missed them, here they are. You can write them down in sequence, but I'll also send these notes out for your reference.

Before I give you these 7 steps, you need to know that when I began sending out the notes from **Light Up The Scriptures**, and when Barbara began sending hers out from **Jammie Church**, the Father was already calling you to a higher level of understanding and intimacy with Him. His revelation – His declarations – and therefore His name, is carried not only by the spoken word but also by the written word. If you were discerning – more importantly, if you were desiring – to KNOW Him, as Paul said in the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His

suffering, You would have poured over the notes AND the recordings with an insatiable hunger. Nothing would take you by surprise that has taken you by surprise. Nothing NEED take you by surprise. I'm compelled to herald this word to you, beloved, that your Father and my Father's earnest desire is for you to Know Him in a way you have not before; to walk with Him in a way and at a level you have not before; and to qualify yourselves to announce Him to a dying world full of people who do not know Him and worse, who have been lied to about Him.

The Father is inviting you to walk with Him in the light of Yeshua. Will you hearken to His voice or another's? Will you receive or reject His declarations? Will you agree with Him or dismiss Him? And will you act on what you receive from His lips, or pretend His words were not worthy and therefore rebel against Him?

You **are** the Father's pleasure. Now, what pleasure will you bring **Him**? What respect; what honor will you **pay** to Him Who gave His **Son's** life for yours?

This is **barely** the magnitude I can see of where we are today, as the Body of the Messiah; this is **barely** the magnitude of opportunity the Father is giving us, and therefore, the **unprecedented** accountability, because of what we have heard and what we have before us that has been written. I am in fear and trembling now, even as I speak these words to you, because I see and hear a desperation toward you by your Father; that you RECEIVE what has been and is being spoken and shown to you. It isn't for the ones speaking or writing – the scriptures weren't written for those who were inspired by the Father to write His words; they were written for those to whom they were spoken and who read them at the time and for all the generations of people who followed.

It's a silly notion, really, that the Father has any feeling of desperation. He is SO not desperate or even the least bit concerned; He knows far better than we, that His will be done on Earth even as it is in the heavens. Desperation is the emotion I feel as I look into His face and hear His voice as He compels me to declare these things to you.

I pray that is a sufficient introduction to our study tonight to command your attention to what could assure your success in every area of your life this year and beyond.

As I see it in the scriptures and by experience, we take 7 steps between revelation and obedience. At any point within those 7 steps we determine the blessing or curse, health or sickness, joy or sorrow, humility or pride, awe or indifference, surrender or self-reliance, prosperity or poverty in spirit, soul and body.

Here are all 7 steps, and then we'll look more at each one – and their opposites:

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|----------------|---|
| 1. Receive | |
| 2. Realize | We might combine a few and get down to 5 steps: |
| 3. Recognize | 1. Receive |
| 4. Acknowledge | 2. Realize and Recognize |
| 5. Accept | 3. Acknowledge and Accept |
| 6. Agree | 4. Agree |
| 7. Act | 5. Act |

We must first **RECEIVE** the Father's revelation to us. He will either speak it to us in our spirits through His, or He'll use someone to deliver His word.

RECEIVE – (G) take hold of, grant access to, give ear to, embrace, make one's own, approve, not to reject, get; also to learn. (H, 7 words) To take, choose, or accept, seize, acquire, contain, sustain, nourish, support, endure.

Proverbs 19:20

Hearken to counsel and receive admonition That you may be wise in your latter days .

Matthew 10:14-15, 40-41

14 And whosoever should not be **receiving** you, nor yet be hearing your words, coming outside of that house or city or village, shake off the dust from your feet.

15 Verily, I am saying to you, More tolerable will it be for the land of Sodom and the land of Gomorrah in the day of judging than for that city.

40 "He who is **receiving** you is **receiving** Me, and he who is receiving Me is **receiving** Him Who commissions Me.

41 He who is **receiving** a prophet in the name of a prophet shall be obtaining a prophet's wages. And he who is **receiving** a just man in the name of a just man shall be obtaining a just man's wages.

Matthew 11:5-6

5 The blind are **receiving** sight, and the lame are walking; lepers are being cleansed, and the deaf are hearing, and the dead are being roused, and to the poor the evangel is being brought.

6 And happy is he who should not be snared in Me."

Matthew 18:5

5 And whosoever should be receiving one such little child in My name is receiving Me.

Mark 10:15

15 Verily, I am saying to you, Whosoever should not be receiving the kingdom of God as a little child, may under no circumstances be entering into it."

Even Saul received the Father's revelation through Samuel; likewise, Pharaoh received the Father's revelation through Moses. Samuel and Moses received revelation too, so what's the difference between HOW revelation is received? Here is where hearts are first tested. Both Samuel and Moses had hearts toward the Father.

1 Samuel 2:35

I will raise up for My self a faithful priest; he shall do all according to what is in My heart and in My soul. And I will build for him a faithful house; he will walk about before My anointed all the days.

Saul and Pharaoh had hearts toward their own self-interests. When God moved beyond Saul, here's what is written about David in **Acts 13:22**:

He rouses David for their king, to whom He said also, in testifying, 'I found David, of Jesse, a man according to My heart, who will be doing all My will.'

I love the description of what happened to David upon his anointing by Samuel in **1 Samuel 16:13**:

The ESV says, “*the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward.*”

The CLV reads quite differently:

13+ So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the spirit of Yahweh prospered on David from that day onward.

Wouldn't you like for the Spirit of YahHoVeH to *prosper* over you, like always?!

Keep going and *maybe* we'll find out how that works:

After we **RECEIVE** revelation – or maybe it's at the same time as receiving revelation from God, we **REALIZE** that revelation has come and we **RECOGNIZE** from Whom it has come. IF he really received the revelation at all, this is where Saul failed first: rather than **REALIZE** that revelation had come and **RECOGNIZE** the one from Whom it was given, He **DENIED** it, and we know what happened as a result.

If our hearts are after the Father, upon **RECEIVING** His revelation, we will not **DENY**, but we will **REALIZE** that it is indeed revelation from Him, and we'll **RECOGNIZE** His voice spoken directly into our spirits, or we will **RECOGNIZE** His voice through the “Samuels” He sends to deliver His word to us.

Realize/Realization – precise and correct knowledge.

Colossians 1:6, 9

5 because of the expectation reserved for you in the heavens, which you hear before in the word of [the] truth of the evangel,
6 which, being present with you, according as in the entire world also, is bearing fruit and growing, according as it is among you also, from the day on which you hear and **realized** the grace of the Father in truth...

... 9 Therefore we also, from the day on which we hear, do not cease praying for you and requesting that you may be filled full with the **realization** of His will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding

1 Timothy 2:4

that we may be leading a mild and quiet life in all devoutness and gravity,

3 for this is ideal and welcome in the sight of our Saviour, the Father,

4 Who wills that all mankind be saved and come into a **realization** of the truth.

Recognize/Recognition – to become thoroughly acquainted with, to know thoroughly; to know accurately; to perceive, find out, or understand

2 Corinthians 5:13

5 Try yourselves, if you are in the faith; test yourselves. Or are you not **recognizing** yourselves that the Messiah Yeshua is in you, except you are somewhat disqualified?

1 Corinthians 13:12

12 For at present we are observing by means of a mirror, in an enigma, yet then, face to face. At present I know out of an instalment, yet then I shall **recognize** according as I am **recognized** also.

Once we **RECEIVE** revelation, **REALIZE** it as such, and **RECOGNIZE** the one through whom it comes, we must **ACKNOWLEDGE** and **ACCEPT** it.

When a legal action is taken, a judge signs an order and officers of the court serve the notice in person. The person receiving that notice, must acknowledge the service and accept it. Failing to do so is grounds for contempt of court. That is a lame, worldly example, because the judge in this case is the Father Who has issued the order and has dispatched His messenger, whether by His own Spirit of Holiness or through an emissary Whom He has commissioned to perform the service on His behalf.

After Saul **DENIED** the revelation and through whom it had come, he then **REFUSED** the legal service that God authorized Samuel to deliver. He **REFUSED** even to **ACKNOWLEDGE** and **ACCEPT** his own accountability! Even after owning up to his sin against God, which he did only because Samuel called him on it, Saul was sorry but unrepentant. He didn't change his mind or his ways, as we see later.

Saul only wanted Samuel to help him look good before the people. He didn't want to be seen for the fraud he was! Saul **DENIED** the message and **REFUSED** the messenger. And to me this is the most fearful and tragic part of the whole account: As far as I can discern, Saul *KNEW BETTER*! It's one thing to be ignorant or even stupid, but how much worse is it to **DENY** and **REFUSE** deliberately?

Do you realize that we know people today who have **DENIED** the message and **REFUSED** the messengers, and are living with the consequences of those actions; never mind the consequences yet to come in the Day of the Lord Yeshua?!

Saul is such an object lesson for what NOT to be like, isn't he? How sad for him, to be remembered as that. I pray mercy for Him at his resurrection before the Great White Throne, because the Father chose Saul to play His part, and we learn so much of value by his example even today!

Acknowledge – (H) to know, recognize, admit, to be made known, to be instructed, to declare, make oneself known, reveal oneself. In Greek, acknowledge, recognize, and realize all come from the same word.

Psalm 32:5

⁵ My sin I am now acknowledging to You, And my depravity I do not cover over.

Proverbs 3:5

⁵ Trust in Yahweh with all your heart, And do not lean to your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He Himself shall straighten your paths.

Accept – (H) pleasure, delight, favor, goodwill. (G) Like receive (see Gal. 1:12)

Leviticus 22:21

²¹ When a man brings near a sacrifice of peace offerings to Yahweh to make an Extraordinary vow or as a voluntary offering of the herd or of the flock, flawless shall it be for **acceptance**; no blemish at all shall be in it.

Job 33:26

²⁶ He shall entreat to Eloah, and He shall **accept** him

Galatians 1:11-12

11 For I am making known to you, brethren, as to the evangel which is being brought by me, that it is not in accord with man.

12 For neither did I **accept** it from a man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Yeshua the Messiah.

If we make it this far in our 7 steps, we've **RECEIVED, REALIZED, RECOGNIZED, ACKNOWLEDGED** and **ACCEPTED** the Father's revelation to us and anyone through whom He delivered it. We got it. We Get it. Now we must **AGREE** with it!

Now we're looking right into Yeshua's life and into His eyes. He is the epitome of **AGREEMENT** with all of the Father's purpose in and for His life, before He became a man, while He was a man, and since the Father restored Him to the glory He had before. Yeshua the Messiah is **the** example of total, unwavering, unshakeable **AGREEMENT** with every aspect of God's purpose, even when that **AGREEMENT** took Him through the humiliation leading to the agony of the cross.

Perhaps the greatest witness of Yeshua's **AGREEMENT** is the words He spoke in Gethsemane as He addressed the Father Who had already gone silent:

"Nevertheless not my will but Yours" (Luke 22:42).

AGREE

1 Chronicles 13:4

The entire assembly **agreed** [actually, said or declared] **to do so, for the matter** seemed **upright in the eyes of all the people.**

Matthew 18:19

19 "Again, verily, I am saying to you that, if ever two of you should be **agreeing** on the earth concerning any matter, whatsoever it is they should be requesting shall be coming to them from My Father Who is in the heavens.

Acts 13:16

"Men! Brethren! Hear me!

14 Simeon unfolds how God first visits the nations, to obtain out of them a people for His name.

15 And with this **agree** the words of the prophets, according as it is written,

16 After these things I will turn back, 'And I will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen... And its overturned structure will I rebuild, And I will re-erect it...

AGREEING is the step to which the others lead, and on which our obedience ultimately hangs. It is the first step from which we now face the Father face-to-face. Think about this: up to now, we haven't had to confront the Father.

RECEIVING, REALIZING, RECOGNIZING, ACKNOWLEDGING and **ACCEPTING** can all be accomplished from a distance, rather than face to face. Not **AGREEING** with Him. Yeshua had to address the Father one-on-one to **AGREE** with Him and with all that would happen to Him from that point, which, by the way, included literal death during which Yeshua, the Messiah, the Beloved Son of the Father, Who was divine and present with the Father first, before anything or anyone else, would cease to be. His awareness of Himself or anything else ended for 3 days and nights. That required Yeshua's **AGREEMENT**, and only He could give it in direct conversation – conversation nothing – in direct desperate pleading to the Father for another way, if by any means. Yeshua **AGREED** with the Father; He **AGREED** with the Father's will, knowing what it was going to cost Him, and knowing also that the Father's purpose hinged on his own **AGREEMENT**.

AGREEING with the revelation, plan and purpose of the Father in and for YOUR life is not something He will *force* upon you. None of the steps that preceded this one is forced upon anyone. When we **AGREE** as Yeshua did, knowing that it will cost us OUR lives, the next step is easy:

Now we must **ACT** according to our **AGREEMENT**. Again, Yeshua is the greatest example, because of what He knew in what all His **ACT** would result: His death. In **ACTING** according to His **AGREEMENT** with the Father, we witness Yeshua's faith. Likewise, In **ACTING** according to our **AGREEMENT** with the Father, we discover and bear witness to our own faith.

What was Yeshua's faith? Who remembers from our previous studies, or from reading either of my books, *GO GOD!* or *You Think YOU Have it Tough?* Paul referred to it, but didn't tell us what He was talking about in **Galatians 3:22** and **Romans 3:22**.

Galatians 3:22

22 But the scripture locks up *[the]* all together under sin, that the promise out of Yeshua the Messiah's faith may be given to those who are believing.

Remember that Galatians was written before Romans, so in **Romans 3:21-23**, Paul shares a bit more:

21 Yet now, apart from law, a righteousness of the Father is manifest (being attested by the law and the prophets),

22 yet a righteousness of God through Yeshua the Messiah's faith, into all, and on all *[the ones]* who are believing, for there is no distinction,

23 for all sinned and are wanting of the glory of *[the Father]*.

So, for the record, let me state again that Yeshua the Messiah's faith, at the end of His life, when He **ACTED** according to His **AGREEMENT** with the revelation He **RECEIVED, REALIZED, RECOGNIZED, ACKNOWLEDGED** and **ACCEPTED**, was that the Father would not leave Him dead, but would raise Him on the third day, exactly as the Father promised He would. Yeshua's **ACT** was purely out of faith – out of trust – in His Father. His **ACT** led Him into His obedience. Our **ACTING** according to our **AGREEMENT** with what we have also **RECEIVED, REALIZED, RECOGNIZED, ACKNOWLEDGED** and **ACCEPTED**, leads to our obedience, which the Father confirms, as He did Yeshua's, and the blessing flows in our lives just as it does in Yeshua's, to this day and into the eons to come.

Conversely, **DENYING** and **REFUSING** the Father's **REVELATION** that we have **RECEIVED**, for which we are without excuse, brings Saul's **REBELLION** into our lives, and with it, the curse that becomes the consequence we have to live with unless and until we repent and go through all the steps that lead to coming into **AGREEMENT** with the Father and His purpose, and then acting accordingly.

Ultimately, all roads lead to obedience. It is inescapable. It is simply better now than later. The reward for obedience now is unspeakably and incomparably greater, even though it is only a promise; a promise made by the Father Who loves us and does not waste time, lives or words.

Holy Father, we **RECEIVE** your **REVELATION** to us; we **REALIZE** your word as **REVELATION** and we **RECOGNIZE** and will not **DENY** You as the author, no matter whom You choose to deliver it. We **ACKNOWLEDGE** and **ACCEPT** Your word to us through the legal agency of Your spirit or your emissary and we will not **REFUSE** it. We **AGREE** with You today, Father and we will **AGREE** with You into the Day of the Messiah Yeshua. And Father we will NOT **REBELL** against You; rather, we will **ACT** directly according to Your word and our **AGREEMENT** with it, and we will follow Your **REVELATION** to us with our obedience. All of our trust we place in You and on Your word, in Yeshua the Messiah's faith, and it is in His name we pray. AMEN.